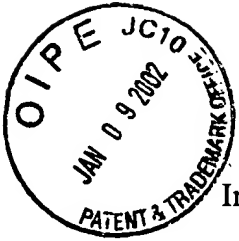


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PATENTS
15311-2285U1

JAN 16 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In Re The Application of:
Roger D. Pannell

Serial No.: 09/944,517

Filed: August 31, 2001

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR
INCREASING THE COUNT OF
OUTSTANDING SPLIT
TRANSACTIONS

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Art Unit: 2182

Cesari and McKenna, LLP
88 Black Falcon Avenue
Boston, MA 02210
October 24, 2001

Technology Center 2100

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the following paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on October 24, 2001.

Michael Reinemann

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In advance of examination, kindly amend the application as follows.

In the specification:

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 1, line 10, as shown on the following sheet.

Serial No. 60/304,167, which was filed on August 31, 2000, by Roger Pannell for
a SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR USING FUNCTION NUMBERS TO INCREASE
THE COUNT OF OUTSTANDING SPLIT TRANSACTIONS,